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#### Contento IUGG Quadrennial Report Planetary

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## Magnetospheric and Interplanetary Physics 1979-1982

David P. Stern

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The quadrennium 1979-1982 witnessed notable advances in magnetospheric and interplanetary physics and demonstrated some major trends. Examples of both will be listed below, followed by an evaluation of the state of the discipline and of its future.

Standing out among the advances is the enormous volume of data about the magnetospheres of the giant planets collected by Voyager 1 and by Pioneer 11. At the start of 1979 the very existence of Saturn's magnetic field was uncertain, and the role of the satellite Io in Jupiter's magnetosphere was only dimly guessed. Four years later we have extensive information on both magnetospheres, on their underlying planetary fields, ring currents, radio emissions, plasma composition, and nightside configuration, and about such matters as Io's plasma torus and the current filament linking Io to Jupiter. Saturn's inner radiation belt (from neutron albedo), and Titan's wake.

During the same interval great strides were also made toward tracing the behavior of different ion species in the earth's magnetosphere, charting the variability of the fields, and deducing their source. The effort included widespread international collaboration, with key observational coming from European experiments. Much has been learned, but the data must still be extended to the 20-200 keV energy range, where most of the energy resides. Details have also come to light about the global distribution of 'beams' and 'crests', and about the relative abundances of O<sup>+</sup>, He<sup>+</sup>, He<sup>++</sup>, H<sup>+</sup> and O<sup>+</sup>. Further properties of field-aligned voltage drops have been noted, including a suggestion of very narrow electric field structures, observable only with a millisecond time resolution.

### Substorms

Auroral kilometric radiation was observed by ISEE-1 (and more recently by DE-1) in its source region, and considerable theoretical effort has gone into explaining its origin. Theory has also greatly advanced in computer simulation of global MHD flow in the magnetosphere. On the other hand, there was only modest progress toward understanding the magnetic substorm, where interesting statistical analyses were conducted on the correlation between interplanetary parameters and substorms, related to the role of magnetic energy storage in substorms. Better information about the thickness and motion of the magnetopause was provided by the combination of ISEE-1 and -2, and ISEE also provided new evidence for magnetic reconnection on the day side.

New phenomena which still have to be placed in proper context include 'flux transfer events' at the dayside boundary, collimated beams along the boundary of the plasma sheet, the 'theta aurora' observed in the polar cap by the optical imager of DE-1, and some interesting changes in magnetic and plasma patterns observed in synchronous orbit near midnight just prior to substorm onset.

While substorms continue to attract attention, serious studies were also devoted to the quiet state of the magnetosphere during times of northward interplanetary magnetic polarity. Several studies have suggested that even at such times the cross-polar potential does not fall below a baseline of about 30 kV and that on occasion its usual two-lobe configuration is replaced by a four-lobe one. There has also been interest in the contracted polar cap at such times and in polar cap auroral arcs.

In interplanetary physics the study of the earth's bow shock has benefited greatly from the ISEE spacecraft constellation, which

between ISEE 1 and 2 have been far fewer than what was earlier envisioned.

### Data Analysis

In coming years the schedule of new missions is likely to be rather modest, and this is regrettable. As scientific problems are better understood and more accurately defined, additional new missions, such as AMPTE, will be needed in order to shed new light on them. The magnetospheric science community, however, may well devote more of its time to analyzing the data backlog awaiting disclosure in data freight yards and tape libraries [Greenstadt and Fredricks, 1979, sec. 7]. On no account should any part of this data set be discarded or allowed to become unusable until that analysis is completed.

The problem has several aspects. The sheer volume of data requires extensive memory and computing power, such as only now are becoming available. Furthermore, data networks, summary plot information and data-handling software must be developed [Smith et al., 1981]. Beyond that, however, ways must also be found for using those new tools efficiently. For instance, existing models of the magnetospheric B are still not far removed from those devised by Gauss, while the stacked plots and many-colored spectrograms so often encountered in the literature testify that no one has yet devised a concise method for handling multidimensional data. It sometimes seems that the resources of the magnetospheric science community are stretched thin by the great data-handling demands. Thus, even though the importance of AE indices is generally acknowledged, such indices have been compiled only for part of the quadrennium.

Beyond this, a great need exists for consolidating past gains of magnetospheric and interplanetary physics. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the IGY, when the first artificial satellites were launched and the study of space physics jumped to its present high level. In those early days it was easy for newcomers to assimilate much of what was known and to advance to the forefront of research, and useful experiments could be built with only modest resources. Today's instruments and data systems are quite sophisticated, and the amount of scientific work being published swamps those who hope to keep up with it. To help newcomers (and perhaps also oldtimers who try to keep head above water), texts, reviews, and courses are needed, especially

### New Instruments and Techniques

New instruments have meanwhile observed both the masses and the charge states of solar wind ions, noting both a high He<sup>+</sup> component in the driver gas behind shocks and an anomalously low He abundance at sector boundaries. Other new developments involve the correlation of shocks and coronal transients, new theoretical work on the origin of the solar wind, and observations of a tail-wake extending several AU behind the magnetosphere of Jupiter.

Notable new techniques during the quadrennium include growing use of electron beam experiments, including one aboard the STS-3 mission of the space shuttle in March 1982 whose results are still mostly unpublished. An 'active' experiment injecting into the magnetosphere radio waves of about 3 kHz, from Spole Station in Antarctica, has yielded many interesting observations, and the 'canned barium release from orbit demonstrated both a new way of generating ion jets and the existence of large correlated structures of E<sub>0</sub>. Other technical advances involved auroral radars and ionospheric modeling. As these lines are being written, data analysis from the twin co-planar DE spacecraft is just beginning, and the ISEE-3 spacecraft has moved into the earth's distant magnetic tail, an important region about which only sparse information exists. These and other achievements are described more fully, with appropriate citations, in the 11 reports that follow.

There is good reason to call the time period between Mariner 9's flyby of Venus to Voyager 2's encounter with Saturn 'The Golden Age of Planetary Exploration.' For a period of 20 years, through 1981, spacecraft were sent almost every month by the United States (and a lesser number by the Soviet Union). Overall, more than two dozen planetary bodies were studied during the program.

Questions are frequently raised about programs beyond the year 2000. More pertinent are questions about plans between now and then. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Advisory Council Solar System Exploration Committee (SSEC) has attempted to answer some of these questions in its 1983 report on *Planetary Exploration Through Year 2000*. The report attempts to identify 'the essential attitudes of a viable program in planetary sciences' and to define new ways to reduce costs.

The reasons for this approach are painfully obvious. The Venus Radar Mapper mission (VRM) instigated this year is the first new start that NASA has had authorized in years. Space missions with the sort of achievement record of the 'Golden Age' traditionally require long lead times. Without a new approach the U.S. space exploration program will soon be at an end. Beginning with the VRM, which is being fabricated from spare and used spacecraft parts, a series of new, efficiently planned missions will be formulated to constitute a modestly scaled but high-scientific-utility program. The SSEC has successfully provided a route to achieve the highest priority goals of a viable scientific space exploration through 2000.

The plan is based on extending knowledge of the solar system, knowledge which has been so richly expanded during the past two decades. The 'Core' Program includes the VRM, whose mission is to continue mapping unexplored regions of the surface of Venus, and the Mars Geoscience/Climatology Orbiters to determine the surface composition of Mars and thereby obtain global classification of the two most earth-like planetary bodies in the solar system. Also included in the Core Program are the Comet Rendezvous and Asteroid Flyby and the Titan (largest moon of Saturn) Probe/Radar Mapper. The schedule of these missions is as follows:

cially in the theory, which now must be pieced together from numerous journal articles. Thus a recent theory institute (*Carroll and Fisher, 1983*) should be viewed at a welcome step, and it is hoped that the following reports will also help fill these needs.

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Magnetospheric and Interplanetary Physics 1979-1982, D. P. Stern  
Heliophysical Magnetic Fields and Plasmas, L. F. Burlaga

The Jovian Magnetosphere, T. J. Burch  
The Magnetosphere of Saturn, A. W. Slatoh  
Near-Equatorial Magnetospheric Particles From ~1 eV to ~1 MeV, D. T. Young  
Polar and Aurora Phenomena: A Review of U.S. Progress During 1979-1982, P. H. Reiff

New Tools for Magnetospheric Research, R. A. Greenwald  
Plasma Boundaries and Shocks, C. T. Russell  
Hydromagnetic Waves in the Magnetosphere, W. J. Hughes  
Energy Transfer in the Quiet and Disturbed Magnetosphere, J. L. Iltis  
Plasma Waves in Planetary Magnetospheres, R. R. Anderson  
Modeling Planetary Magnetospheres, R. J. Walker

tures, close approaches to poorly seen satellites, and additional radar coverage of Titan's surface.

The *Saturn and the Uranian Flyby Probe* mission will provide in situ determination of the composition and structure of the Saturnian and Uranian atmospheres and clouds for comparison with the Jovian case as determined by the Galileo probe.

The extensive anticipated accomplishment are exciting, perhaps awesome. Global mapping of the moon's surface may lead to a better understanding of its origin, and of the earth—there will be a search for lunar solar reservoirs of water ice. First visits will be made to near-earth and main-belt asteroids. Direct analysis will be made of Titan's atmospheric composition and structure; the results will provide insights to the prebiotic state of the earth's surface. Exploration of the atmosphere and surface of Venus, earth's sister planet, may lead to an understanding of the state of geological development. The list of scientific goals goes on; explorations of Saturn, Jupiter, and of Uranus are on that list.—PAW

Locations of the aftershocks indicate that movement along the coast range fault occurs over an elliptical zone that measures about 52 km x 9.7 km and is centered around the main shock. The focal point of most of the aftershocks is below 10.8 km in depth. Although the San Andreas fault was directly involved in the Coalinga earthquake, readings from sensitive fault displacement meters along the San Andreas in the Parkfield, Calif., area indicate a displacement of 0.5 cm.

Discovery of the thrust fault, previously unknown type, in the area leads scientists to believe that other buried faults exist in the region, according to a USGS spokesman. Locating such faults will be difficult because no ruptures appear at the surface. The magnitude of the May 2 quake and the reactivation of the ancient fault imply that the period of quiescence is over and that a period of larger earthquakes has begun, the spokesman said. Leonardo Seeber of the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory said that the increase in seismic activity in the area began about 1979.

No deaths were reported, but injuries exceeded 45, according to James Brady of the U.S. Disaster Field Office in Coalinga. Damage, estimated at more than \$30 million, has

pared with pure iron (nickel added to iron raises, not lowers, its density at high pressure).

Raymond A. Ferrara, Dennis P. Lenteinmaier, Helen J. Peters, Rumiachanira A. Rao, Timothy D. Steele, Wendell V. Tangborn, and Jennifer C. Ting.

• IANAP: Robert G. Ellington, Inez V. Fung, Catherine H. Gamier, David J. Holmann, James L. Kinter, G. Wesley Lockwood, Julian London, John D. Matthews, Jan Paegle, Edward M. Patterson, Robert R. Reiper, Gary J. Rotman, and Gunter Weller.

• IAPSO: Karen S. Baker, Richard T. Barber, Michael L. Bender, Melbourne G. Brune, Thomas M. Church, Margaret Louis DeLaney, Patrick C. Gubacker, Thomas W. C. Hilde, A. Dennis Kirwan, Murray D. Levine, David R. Schmitz, Jonathan H. Sharp, Charles W. Van Atta, and Michael L. Van Woert.

• IASPEI: Thomas J. Ahrens, Kenneth C. Creager, Donald W. Forsyth, Bradford H. Hager, R. N. Hey, J. Casey Moore, Jack E. Oliver, Peter L. Olson, Gerald Schubert, Robert B. Smith, Lisa M. Stewart, and Lynn R. Sykes.

• IAGC: Kein Becker, Nikolaj I. Christensen, Wolfgang E. Elst, Dennis E. Hayes, Jose J. Honnoroz, Robert W. Kay, Juergen Kienle, Sathy A. Naidu, David W. Scholl, Stephan Self, Thomas J. Shankland, and Michael F. Sheridan.—BTR

The results of the postulated inner-outer core model properties is that, for shear waves, the boundary would appear to rise or fall as a function of frequency. For high frequencies the outer portions of the inner core would be different from those they would for lower frequencies. Anderson has suggested that a critical measurement of effective inner core radius to see whether it varies with frequency would be done. Until numerous factors about the behavior of materials under core conditions can be evaluated, however, the models will be non-unique.

The results are intriguing. Whatever geophysicists may think about the earth's core, its boundary would appear to rise or fall as a function of frequency. For high frequencies the outer portions of the inner core would be different from those they would for lower frequencies. Anderson has suggested that a critical measurement of effective inner core radius to see whether it varies with frequency would be done. Until numerous factors about the behavior of materials under core conditions can be evaluated, however, the models will be non-unique.

The outer core still has fluid model concepts; however, concepts of the inner core and the outer boundary are being changed. One possibility is that the depth to the boundary may be variable depending on the properties of seismic waves that are used to 'interrogate.' The core material may be in a conceptually new state such that the inner core may have the properties somewhere between those of a solid and a fluid (D. L. Anderson, *Nature*, April 1983).

The general concept of the earth's core is that it is mostly fluid, the inner-solid portion having diameter of about 1215 km. The old idea that the core is an iron-nickel alloy, like iron meteorites, has long since been dispensed with on experimental grounds; but that the composition is an iron alloy is still current.

One difficulty has been that core models have been constructed by attempting to fit one-atmosphere iron and iron-alloy data to seismic models. The appropriate properties of materials under conditions of the earth's core—(1.5-3.5 Mbar, greater than 3000°C) have never been determined. 'Very good' shock-wave data on iron and iron melt are still uncertain by at least 1000°C (O. L. Anderson, *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London*, A306, 21, 1982).

Part of the interpretation problem results from iron and its melt being almost indistinguishable in a shock-wave experiment. The category of properties that could render iron to appear as fluid or solid in shear strength, that is, depending on the frequency of a seismic wave, could indeed characterize the outer parts of the inner core.

• IAG: Roger C. Bilhara, Yehuda Bock, Roland L. Hardy, Warren G. Heller, Richard H. Rapp, Naresida K. Saxena, Byron D. Taylor, Uri A. Uziel, and James H. Whitecomb.

• IAGC: Subir K. Bandyopadhyay, Charles E. Barton, Christopher G. A. Harrison, Robert W. Hill, Kenneth A. Hoffman, Robert M. Johnson, Robert H. Manka, Robert L. McPherson, Lawrence R. Megill, Christopher T. Russell, David J. Stevenson, David B. Stone, and Brian A. Tinsley.

• IAPSO: Jaime Ambrona, Edmund D. Andrews, Robert Brakenridge, Nathan Buras,

resulted in the displacement of more than 1,000 persons.

USGS scientists said that the fault responsible for the earthquake is of a different variety than the well-known San Andreas fault that lies about 52 km west of Coalinga. The San Andreas is a major vertical fault along which most large earthquakes occur when there is a horizontal strike-slip movement, the USGS says. In contrast, the May 2 earthquake appears to have been generated on an ancient, buried coast range thrust fault that once separated the North American continent from the Pacific basin. Thrust fault movement causes one block to move over the other. The coast range thrust fault is tens of millions of years older than the San Andreas fault, according to USGS scientists.

The locations of the aftershocks indicate that movement along the coast range fault occurs over an elliptical zone that measures about 52 km x 9.7 km and is centered around the main shock. The focal point of most of the aftershocks is below 10.8 km in depth. Although the San Andreas fault was directly involved in the Coalinga earthquake, readings from sensitive fault displacement meters along the San Andreas in the Parkfield, Calif., area indicate a displacement of 0.5 cm.

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## Goals of the Union

The objectives of the Union are defined in the statutes as follows:

- (a) To promote the scientific study of the earth and its environment in space and to make the results of such studies available to the public.
- (b) To promote cooperation among scientific organizations whose objectives include the furtherance of knowledge in the geophysical disciplines.
- (c) To initiate and participate in geophysical research programs, including those that depend upon international cooperation.
- (d) To advance the various geophysical disciplines.

A set of working goals based on the Union's objectives has been developed. These are, in order of priority:

1. To provide media suitable for the dissemination of any sound scientific information related to geophysics and to assure that such information is accessible to individuals who have a use for it or an interest in it.
2. To stimulate scientifically productive personal relationships between and among geophysicists.
3. To encourage new relationships between and among subdisciplines of science that relate to geophysics.
4. To foster an increased awareness among individual scientists, worldwide, of what programs in geophysics are being carried out in each country and what the results are.
5. To attract competent individual students and research workers, devote their attention to geophysics, and to stimulate high-quality education for students interested in geophysics.
6. To assist individual geophysicists in their efforts to assure a political, social, and economic environment conducive to increased excellence in geophysical research.

addition it has been customary for this committee to review the organizational and governing documents of any section or region that might form and suggest changes if appropriate.

The objectives for this committee during the 1982-1984 biennium emphasize (1) a complete review of the Union's Statutes and Bylaws and proposing of needed changes, and (2) working with the sections in developing section bylaws that will provide individualized operating guidelines for each section. Several changes for the Union Statutes and bylaws have already been proposed and section bylaws have been approved for four of the sections. AGU members are urged to contact this committee with suggestions as to what statutes or bylaws should be changed (latest copy is in the August 31, 1982, issue of *Env.*).

**Members**

A. Ivan Johnson, Chairman; Shelton S. Alexander, William C. Phinney, Joseph L. Reid.

### Union Nominations

The Committee on Nominations is charged to present by spring 1983 two nominees each for the three major Union offices: President-Elect, General Secretary, Foreign Secretary. Committee members have placed some members in nomination. Although other Union members have submitted names, membership participation in the nominating process has been disappointing. Presently the Committee is firming up its final choices.

**Members**

Helmut E. Landsberg, Chairman; Allan V. Cox, Arthur E. Maxwell, Lynn R. Sykes, James R. Wallis, J. Tuoz Wilson.

### Publications

The AGU Publications Committee oversees the publications program: journals, books, and translations. The committee routinely monitors the AGU staff's support for these operations, defines policies and procedures, evaluates the sources of revenue for the publications program, and participates in the selection process for new editors. In addition to these continuing tasks, the committee has several special objectives for the 1982-84 biennium. These are:

- (1) To maintain and enhance AGU's publishing reputation by the selection of outstanding editors and by ensuring high standards at each stage of the publishing process.

(2) To be alert to new opportunities for publishing ventures in use in geophysicists. Oceanography, seismology, and volcano activity are evolving particularly rapidly and may invite AGU publication initiatives.

(3) To prepare for the increasing impact of the 'electronic age' on publications by investigating electronic document transfer, indexing, and access.

(4) To reevaluate the mix of income to the publishing program from individual subscription, library subscription, and page charges.

(5) To attempt to reduce manuscript processing and publication times without sacrifice.

(6) To establish a detailed accounting scheme for AGU book sales projections and finances.

—7. E. Gravel

### Members

Thomas E. Craedel, Chairman; David Atias, M. Crant Gross, Jurate M. Landwehr, Peter H. Mohar, George C. Reid, Rob Van der Voo.

### Meetings

The Meetings Committee is charged with the task of conducting a continuing review of the AGU's entire meetings program to assure that it supports Union objectives in depth, scope, and quality. The annual Spring and Fall meetings are the most important elements in this program, which the committee evaluates with the following questions in mind:

- (1) Have these meetings provided the best possible forum for the communication of the results of on-going research in order to attract as large a fraction as possible of the active research community?
- (2) Has personal contact among individual scientists been enhanced?
- (3) Has an interdisciplinary understanding been enhanced?
- (4) Have discussions of 'health of the science' been encouraged?
- (5) Have these meetings succeeded in serving as an educational forum for scientists to broaden their understanding of the scope of geophysical research?

The Committee is charged with recommending policies regarding all meetings to the AGU Council. The Committee also pursues a program for stimulating, planning, conducting, and reviewing Chapman Conferences so that this series encompasses the interests of all sections and so that they are vigorous, financially self-supporting, and maintain their present reputation for excellence.

**Members**

Thomas A. Potemra, Chairman; G. Brent Dalrymple, Thomas J. Fitch, Dennis W. Moore, Martin A. Pomerantz, Mary Lou C. Zoback.

### Public Affairs

Responsibilities of our committee currently include selection of the AGU Congressional Science Fellow, dissemination of public information, and convening of symposia on issues of public interest at national meetings. In response to perceived immediate interests, the Public Affairs Committee selected two new initiatives to propose to Council at the December 1982 meeting:

- (1) inauguration of a program of science/policy seminars on college campuses, designed to capitalize on the experience gained by AGU's Congressional Science Fellows and others within our ranks who have been involved in the policy making process.
- (2) Adding systematic coverage in *Env.* of pending and enacted governmental decisions relating to science in general and earth science in particular.

Purposes of the proposed seminar program are: (a) to enhance scientists' understanding of science policy issues; (b) to increase AGU visibility on college campuses; (c) to use effectively the special expertise gained by Fellows (and others); (d) to contribute to general understanding of legislative and executive (e.g., Office of Management and Budget) decision making processes among present and prospective scientists; (e) to increase awareness of the Congressional Science Fellowship program and expand the pool of interested candidates; and (f) to provide a visible 'return' on the Union's investment in the Congressional Fellowships. Presentations will focus on a specific science issue and its commonly toruous path through the legislative mill.

The first initiative was approved by Council on a 2-year trial basis. The second initiative is not new, but its implementation has been haphazard at best, primarily because funds have not been sufficient to permit an AGU staff writer to cover Capitol Hill adequately. Council approved a budget allocation to support the additional staff time necessary for this effort and we have begun to see regular re-

ports of Congressional and other governmental actions.

In addition, Fred Spillers agreed to initiate contact personally with staffs of Congressmen, Senators, and key committees to apprise them of the expertise within AGU that might be called upon for input when relevant legislation is under consideration. Headquarter has on file a list of 'issue spokespersons' willing to lead time, talent, and testimony for fellowship.

We intend to continue to promote public issues symposia. For the 1983 Spring meeting, the ball has been picked up by Lynn Sykes and Jack Evernden, who are organizing a session on reutilization of nuclear test data. Topics under consideration for later meetings include radioactive waste disposal, hazards (natural and other wise), and world habitability factors; additional suggestions are happily received.

Our Subcommittee on Public Information, under the chairmanship of Ray Rybicki, reviews meetings abstracts in newsworthy content and advises accordingly those in charge of news releases.

The Subcommittee on Governmental and Legislative Affairs, chaired by former Science Fellow Chris Bernabe, has primary responsibility for selecting the Congressional Science Fellow.

There appears to be decided consensus within our committee that more effective attention to and participation in public affairs and policy making by AGU members is not only appropriate but advisable. Our challenge is to devise effective means of stimulating among our colleagues this awareness and participation; we welcome comments and suggestions.

—Carroll Ann Hodges

### Members

Carroll Ann Hodges, Chairman; Thomas J. Ahrens, Robert J. Barbera, J. Christopher Bernabe, David P. Cauffman, Jaret L. Cason, Stanislaus M. Kruizinga, Robert E. Murph, Raymond G. Ruble, George Shaw.

### Annual Meetings

The annual AGU meetings are remarkable both in the level of attendance and in the broad scope of the topics discussed. They provide unique opportunities for scientists involved in the earth sciences to meet with researchers in related topics and to hear about research across the broad spectrum of these sciences.

My prime objective is to ensure that the meetings continue to provide these opportunities. No major change in format is required, although the trend toward increasing use of poster sessions must continue to ensure both the highest quality of presentations and that we do not overflow all but a few convenient sites in the nation. The program chairman of the individual sections for the meetings play an invaluable role in supporting greater use of posters.

All Union sessions should continue to inform members about major themes or events in the geosciences. In addition the success of the fractals session at the 1982 Fall meeting indicates that discussions of narrower topics (e.g., specific mathematical techniques) that are important to researchers in many topics may be desirable. It is important that AGU members continue to suggest topics for All-Union or special sessions to the meetings chairman or to the individual members of the programs committees.

—Thomas A. Potemra

### Members

Thomas A. Potemra, Chairman; Shelton S. Alexander, William C. Phinney, Joseph L. Reid.

### Atmosphere and Space Electricity

The Committee on Atmosphere and Space Electricity (CASE) currently serves three groups of scientists within AGU: (1) the thunderstorm electricity group, (2) the fair-weather ionospheric electricity group, and (3) the middle atmo-

sphere electricity group. There is some overlap in these groups, but to a large extent the individuals align themselves within these subject areas. One of the functions of our committee is to promote communication between these groups and within the larger AGU membership. The membership of the committee represents all of these areas; this is certainly a feature that should be maintained in the makeup of future CASE members.

The thunderstorm electricity group is the larger and more active group in the AGU Fall meeting typically 35% of the Atmospheric Sciences Section of AGU. The AGU Fall meeting typically 35% of the Atmospheric Sciences sessions are produced by this active group of research scientists.

The 'fair-weather' atmosphere-electricity group (global circuit, ion reactions, and interactions with both the thunderstorm and the mid-atmosphere groups) is a group that is small and frequently their papers are read with those of one of the other groups at AGU meetings. This group is also involved with a link to Atmospheric Chemistry.

The middle-atmosphere electricity group is really a subset of the fair-weather aeronomy and magnetospheric aeronomy. These scientists are usually in the Ionosphere and Relationships (SPR) Section of

the membership. Would that be a better procedure? But perhaps the largest problem is related to the selection of new fellows, simple indifference on the part of the members. More eminent members are not elected to fellowship because nobody bothers to nominate them. Therefore, I urge you to send nominations of people you think qualify for fellowship.

The Fellows Committee is also looking into other questions. At the meeting of the Union distributed reasonably over all the disciplines represented in the membership? Should there be more awards? Should the present awards be given more frequently or less frequently?

AGU awards are important. The Committee is currently considering the kind of question I have outlined above. We need your advice and suggestions. Please send them to us.

### Members

Mark Edward, Chairman; James E. Fale, R. Allan Freeze, J. Freeman Gilbert, Donald Gurnett, James R. Holton, Richard H. Jahn, W. Barlow Kands, Ned O'Byrne, Robert O. Reid, Eugene M. Showalter.

### History of Geophysics

The Committee on the History of Geophysics (CHG) was established by the AGU Council in December 1981 and is still in its initial stages, exploring various activities and options toward achieving its goals. These include special sessions devoted to the history of geophysics, at least one per AGU meeting; in Spring 1982 on Solar-Earth Relationships, Fall 1982 on Scientific Research in the IVY, and Spring 1983 on the History of Meteorology. A newsletter is being edited by George Sissons (tailed to all interested members) and Bob Eather has joined *Env.* as associate editor for history, promoting the publication of relevant articles and book reviews and also of obituaries of notable geophysicists. Three subcommittees have been established (on October 19, 1982, p. 821), on meetings (Martin Wahl), historical data (John Reynolds), and publications (Bob Eather).

CHG is still in its initial evolution and an AGU member can join it without Jim Heirtzler. In particular, CHG wishes participation from all those AGU sections which, for one reason or another, are still not adequately represented. Inputs and contributions to *Env.* are most welcome, including those related to obituaries, where Bob Eather is trying to cut any delays to the minimum. In the coming years CHG plans to promote (in addition to items already listed) publication related to geophysics, collaborations with academic historians of science, specific history research projects, archiving and indexing of historically valuable material, the history of AGU itself, and perhaps steps toward a permanent center devoted to the history of geophysics. Come with us, your participation is appreciated!

—David P. Stow

### Members

David P. Stow, Chairman; Harold L. Bostrom, Alexander J. Deller, John A. Eddy, John Feynman, James R. Heirtzler, Martin Wahl.

### Atmosphere and Space Electricity

The Committee on Atmosphere and Space Electricity (CASE) currently serves three groups of scientists within AGU: (1) the thunderstorm electricity group, (2) the fair-weather ionospheric electricity group, and (3) the middle atmo-

sphere electricity group. There is some overlap in these groups, but to a large extent the individuals align themselves within these subject areas. One of the functions of our committee is to promote communication between these groups and within the larger AGU membership. The membership of the committee represents all of these areas; this is certainly a feature that should be maintained in the makeup of future CASE members.

The thunderstorm electricity group is the larger and more active group in the AGU Fall meeting typically 35% of the Atmospheric Sciences Section of AGU. The AGU Fall meeting typically 35% of the Atmospheric Sciences sessions are produced by this active group of research scientists.

The 'fair-weather' atmosphere-electricity group (global circuit, ion reactions, and interactions with both the thunderstorm and the mid-atmosphere groups) is a group that is small and frequently their papers are read with those of one of the other groups at AGU meetings. This group is also involved with a link to Atmospheric Chemistry.

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the membership. Would that be a better procedure? But perhaps the largest problem is related to the selection of new fellows, simple indifference on the part of the members. More eminent members are not elected to fellowship because nobody bothers to nominate them. Therefore, I urge you to send nominations of people you think qualify for fellowship.

Nonetheless, I believe that being comfortable with analytical approaches to evaluating problems enables a Congressional Fellow to present their papers to a broader AGU audience.

Over the past several years, CASE has (1) arranged special sessions at AGU meetings, (2) held annual committee meetings to provide a communication link among the AGU membership and between the AGU and the AGU organization, (3) assisted the Thunderstorm Research International Research Program (TRIP) in communicating with principal investigators by inviting their participation in annual committee meetings, (4) promoted the strengthening of the middle atmospheric electrodynamics research, and (5) acted as a common representative of the diverse research groups involved in atmospheric and space electrical research.

The Congressional Budget Office, the Office of Technology Assessment, and the General Accounting Office are sister agencies that report to the Congress and perform applied research efforts at the request of Congressional Committees or, in some cases, Members of Congress. Although each agency has its own charter, they all share certain characteristics. All are in the business of providing analyses of politically contentious issues in accessible form. In some instances, original research is performed, in others existing research is merely summarized. An understanding of the needs of Capitol Hill decision makers is key.

For me, the opportunity to participate in such research efforts was fantastic. I found my research was well directed because I felt that I had a sense of the players that might use it. In the paragraphs that follow, AGU has reprinted the summary of the report I helped produce while at CBO. I believe the issue it addresses—policy options for a strategic minerals program—is of interest to AGU members.

—Arthur A. Few, Jr.

### Members

Arthur A. Few, Jr., Chairman; Hugh J. Christian, Robert H. Holzworth H. E. Philip Krider, Nelson C. Maynard, Charles B. Moore, Raymond G. Roble, Ludwin H. Ruhe, W. David Rust.

### Membership

There are a number of issues facing the Membership Committee, some that should be discussed and some that should be acted upon.

(1) There is some sentiment for structural changes in AGU. There has been a request for a Committee on Mineral Physics to respond to the interdisciplinary nature of this field. In addition, there are some questions about what the future of the Planetary Section should be.

(2) The composition of the Executive Committee has been brought into question. Should it be enlarged so as to be more representative of the sections? Should the Foreign Secretary automatically be a member?

(3) The Geophysics Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences has been changed to the Geophysics Research Forum (GRF). It will not operate committee in the future, but will serve as a platform for discussion of interdisciplinary activities. Should AGU take some sort of role in participating in the activities of GRF? What role? How and when?

(4) Interest has been expressed in an IUGV program dealing with biogeochemical cycles and there will be a study at Woods Hole this summer on this subject. What should be the role of AGU?

(5) What should our position be with regard to advocacy?

(6) What should we be doing with regard to recruitment that we are not doing now? In this regard, we need to consider foreign members, institutional membership, student members.

(7) How can we gain better interaction with academic departments at Universities? Should we try to establish designated correspondents at Universities?

(8) AGU is not currently a member of the American Geophysical Institute (AGI), and there are questions that need to be resolved before AGU might consider suggestions that it join AGI.

—Charles L. Drake

### Members

Charles L. Drake, Chairman; L. Thomas Aldrich, Louis J. Battan, E. R. Engdahl, James J. O'Brien, M. Gordon Wolman.

Our committee has organized special sessions for this group that are cosponsored by Atmospheric Sciences and SPR. This has provided a group with the opportunity to present their papers to a broader AGU audience.

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